Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 /064 W

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O R 280720Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON
SECSTATE WASHDC 8680

SECRETBANGKOK 2156

HQS PASS A/BENSINGER, A/DA MILLER, EN/CASEY, IG/FINK, ENOF/DOYLE, IGIF/SWAIN FROM RD ADDARIO; EMBPASS BULLINGTON

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: THAILAND NARCOTICS DEVELOPMENTS

1. FOLLOWING BURMESE ARMY INCURSION INTO THAILAND DURING EARLY STAGE OF MOHEIN II (OPERATION MACE) IN HOT PURSUIT OF SUA FORCES, IT HAS BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE VIA NEWSPAPER ARTICLE THAT SUA LEADER CHANG CHI-FU A/K/A KHUN SA (V) IS NOTORIOUS NARCOTICS VIOLATOR AS WELL AS BURMESE DISSIDENT LEADER. THIS WAS HERETOFORE DELICATE SUBJECT IN OFFICIAL THAI CIRCLES BECAUSE SUA HQS LOCATED AT BAN HIN TEK IN THAILAND AND BECAUSE CHANG CHI-FU HAS ESTABLISHED WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH RANKING THAI ARMY SUPREME COMMAND PERSONALITIES.

2. ON 25 JANUARY GENERAL CHAVALIT YODMANI OF THE PNSC CALLED AT DEA OFFICES AND RAISED MATTER OF CHANG CHI-FU WITH RD ADDARIO, AFTER ENQUIRING IF ADDARIO KNEW OF CHANG'S CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH DEPUTY SUPREME COMMANDER GENERAL KRIANGSAK CHAMANAN. CHAVLIT THEN STATED THAT A NUMBER OF THAI POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS HAD AGREED TO DECLARE CHANG CHI-FU SECRET

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PERSONNA NON GRATA BECAUSE OF HIS ADIOUS REPUTATION AND BECAUSE HE CAUSED MANY PROBLEMS FOR THE BPP IN THE NORTH OF THAILAND. THE TNPD, CHAVALIT CONTINUED, WOULD LIKE TO ARREST AND DEPORT CHANG BUT ARE WAITING FOR THAI MILITARY APPROVAL. THAT, OF COURSE, WOULD REQUIRE KRIANGSAK'S CHOP. HE ADDED THAT THAI DELEGATION NOW VISITING RANGOON, WHICH INCLUDES KRIANGSAK, MIGHT LEAD TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

TWO COUNTRIES ESPECIALLY AS FAR AS NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION IN GOLDEN TRIANGLE IS CONCERNED, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

3. CHAVALIT ALSO MENTIONED THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF A NARCOTICS DIVISION WITH TNPD HAS RECEIVED APPROVAL OF TNPD DIRECTOR GENERAL MONTCHAI PHANKONGCHUEN AND NOW AWAITS FINAL GO-AHEAD FROM POLICE PERSONNEL DIVISION. CHAVALIT EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT FAVORABLE RESPONSE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING. THE AFOREMENTIONED INFORMATION WAS RELATED TO RD ADDARIO IN COFIDENCE. WHITEHOUSE

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